

it by these small matters of having the district judges appoint committing magistrates.

I, therefore, think this is a well-taken amendment. I hope you approve of it.

THE CHAIRMAN: The Chair recognizes Delegate Henderson to speak in opposition. Sorry, Delegate Harry Taylor to speak in opposition.

DELEGATE H. TAYLOR: Will the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee yield to a question?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mudd, do you yield?

DELEGATE MUDD: Yes, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Taylor.

DELEGATE H. TAYLOR: Do they have this commissioner system on the federal level?

DELEGATE MUDD: Yes.

DELEGATE H. TAYLOR: Who appoints commissioners there?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mudd?

DELEGATE MUDD: I was one many, many years ago and at that time I was appointed by Judge Coleman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate H. Taylor.

DELEGATE H. TAYLOR: Has the system worked satisfactorily on the federal level as far as you know?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mudd.

DELEGATE MUDD: Are you asking me to judge my competency?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Harry Taylor.

DELEGATE H. TAYLOR: The ones appointed since you left.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mudd.

DELEGATE MUDD: You have a very distinguished one in your county now, Commissioner Burgess. I think he does it well.

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Raley, for what purpose do you rise?

DELEGATE RALEY: To speak in opposition.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does anyone desire to speak in favor?

Delegate Raley, you may proceed to speak in opposition.

DELEGATE RALEY: Mr. Chairman, I am a State Senator and had some experience with the magistrate. The system was atrocious. I remember I tried at one point to get a training period but the big problem was nobody controlled these people.

It seems to me the commissioners there set up are going to be an arm of the court so they should be properly controlled by the court, properly trained by the court. This is the only thing that can be done to change the system.

I think this amendment should be defeated because I believe this would be a real step forward in this State.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any other delegate desire to speak in favor of the amendment?

Delegate Key, do you desire to speak in favor?

DELEGATE KEY: I do not know. I have a question of either Delegate Mudd or Delegate Johnson. It does not matter.

THE CHAIRMAN: You name it.

DELEGATE KEY: Which is in order right now?

THE CHAIRMAN: Do you desire to direct your inquiry to Delegate Mudd?

DELEGATE KEY: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do you desire to respond to an inquiry?

DELEGATE MUDD: It may be out of order.

DELEGATE KEY: Delegate Mitchell inferred that this article, this amendment, rather, would permit selection of these commissioners by the merit system? I know that now there are many employees of Baltimore City courts. Do you know whether any of these are appointed by the merit system or are they all appointed by the court?

DELEGATE MUDD: The committing magistrates in Baltimore City now; is that what you mean?

DELEGATE KEY: No, I am speaking now of just the whole court system in Baltimore City. Are they under the merit system?

THE CHAIRMAN: Delegate Mudd.

DELEGATE MUDD: I do not know if I can fully answer your question.